

Application No.: 09/986,975

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A washing apparatus comprising:

(a) a driving side base (7) having a rotary drive unit (8) and a speed reducer (14);

(b) a washing tank (1) having a stirring blade (2) which comprises a disk rotatably disposed on a shaft of the rotary drive unit inside the washing tank, said disk having protrusions extending only upwardly therefrom; and

(c) a connection structure for detachably coupling the driving side base and the washing tank, wherein the speed reducer is installed in the driving side base and is also disposed between the rotary drive unit in the driving side base and a rotatable transfer joint connected to the rotary drive unit, said speed reducer being configured to reduce the rotating speed of the rotary drive unit and transmitting the reduced rotating speed to the rotatable transfer joint, [[and]]

wherein a rotational drive of the rotary drive unit is able to transmit to the stirring blade when the washing tank is mounted on top of the driving side base, and

the washing tank includes a cover having a hole for draining wash water in the washing tank.

2. (Currently amended) A washing apparatus comprising:

(a) a driving side base (7) having a rotary drive unit (8) and a second transfer joint (10), the second transfer joint being connected to the rotary drive unit and able to rotate, wherein the driving side base further comprises a speed reducer (14) installed between the rotary drive unit and the second transfer joint, said speed reducer being configured to reduce the rotating speed of the rotary drive unit and transmitting the reduced rotating speed to the second transfer joint; and

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(b) a washing tank (1) for storing the laundry,

where the washing tank includes:

an opening formed at the upper portion of the washing tank;

a rotatable shaft (5) piercing through the bottom of the washing tank;

a rotatable stirring blade (2) which comprises a disk which is disposed on the shaft inside the washing tank, said disk having protrusions extending only upwardly therefrom; and

a first transfer joint (6) disposed on the shaft, outside the bottom of the washing tank, and serves to transfer a rotational drive to the stirring blade,

wherein the washing tank is detachably mounted on top of the driving side base and also separated from top of the driving side base; [[and]]

when the washing tank is mounted on top of the driving side base, the first transfer joint and the second transfer joint come to engage each other such that the stirring blade rotates when the rotary drive unit is operated, and

the washing tank includes a cover having a hole for draining wash water in the washing tank.

3. (Previously presented) The washing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the stirring blade is fitted to an upper end of the shaft;

the first transfer joint is connected to a lower end of the shaft; and

when the washing tank is mounted on the driving side base and the rotary drive unit is operated, the rotational drive of the rotary drive unit is transferred to the stirring blade via the second transfer joint and the first transfer joint, thereby the stirring blade is rotated.

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4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the driving side base further has a control means (16) for controlling the rotation of the stirring blade.
6. (Original) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank further comprises a grip portion (17) disposed close to the opening.
7. (Original) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank has at least one water level line (18) formed on the inner wall thereof, and the water level line indicates the level of the wash water poured into the washing tank.
8. (Previously presented) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank has at least one wash assisting convex (19) portion disposed nearly vertically close to the bottom of the inner wall thereof.
9. (Currently amended) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~the washing tank further includes a~~ the cover (20) is disposed at the opening, the cover being able to open and close.
10. (Original) The washing apparatus of claim 9, wherein the cover has a lock mechanism (21) to keep the cover closed.

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11. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 9, wherein ~~the cover (20b) has a hole (23) for draining wash water in the washing tank, and~~

when the washing tank is inclined or turned upside down, the wash water is discharged out of the washing tank.

12. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the cover (20c) further includes a draining rib (24) disposed at an exterior side of the hole.

13. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the cover (20d) further has a projection (25) disposed at the washing tank side of the hole, and
the projection may prevent the hole from being closed with the laundry.

14. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank (1d) further includes a bottom drain hose (26) disposed nearly at the lower portion of the washing tank, and
the drain hose is used to discharge the wash water out of the washing tank.

15. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 14, wherein the washing tank (1d) further comprises a lower cut-off valve (29) disposed in the drain passage of the bottom drain hose, and
the lower cut-off valve serves to control the drain.

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16. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank (1e) further includes a feed water passage (30) disposed near the upper portion of the washing tank, and

the feed water passage supplies water into the washing tank.

17. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the washing tank (1f) further comprises an upper drain hole (32) disposed near the upper portion of the washing tank, and

an upper drain hose (33) connected to the upper drain hole.

18. (Withdrawn) The washing apparatus of claim 17, wherein the washing tank further comprises an upper drain cut-off valve (34) disposed in the drain passage of the upper drain hose (33a), and the upper drain cut-off valve serves to control a drain.

19. (Previously presented) The washing apparatus of claim 1 or 2, wherein the driving side base (7c) has a guide (34) disposed at a top of the driving side base, and

when the washing tank is mounted on top of the driving side base, the guide is connected to a lower portion of the washing tank.

20. (Original) The washing apparatus of claim 19, wherein the driving side base (7d) further includes a tank fixing support portion (36),

the washing tank (1g) further includes a tank fixing portion (37)

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